CLAIMS

1. A method for providing access to supplemental data for at least one page in a printed publication, said method comprising:

providing an electronic database that includes supplemental data for said at least one page, said supplemental data provided at least at a first location in said database and accessible from at least a first computer system;

generating an index having a first parameter for identifying said at least one page and having a second parameter associated with said supplemental data and said first parameter for input to said computer system; and

providing instructions for said first computer system, wherein said first computer system is programmable in accord with said instructions for retrieving said supplemental data for said at least one page in response to receiving at least said second parameter.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said first computer system is an Internet and wherein said second parameter is a meta-code for input into said Internet.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said Internet includes at least one client computer and at least one server computer, said client computer for receiving said meta-code and for responsively generating a file transfer request word and directing said file transfer request word to said at least one server computer of the Internet.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said second parameter comprises an encoded file location pointer comprising a uniform resource locator (URL) for specifying said first location in said database.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said first computer system is an Internet that includes at least one client computer and at least one server computer, wherein said second parameter comprises an encoded file location pointer comprising a network address associated with at least one server computer and a file identifier correlated to said first location in said database.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said index comprises an adhesive label and said second parameter comprises a character string.

7. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

encoding in said index an encryption key associated with a source identifier data string, said encryption key suitable for receipt by said client computer to encrypt information specific to a user associated with said client computer, said encrypted user information suitable for assemblage within a computer file transfer request word and transmission to said server computer.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said server computer utilizes a source identifier data string to access a lookup table to determine a decryption key associated with said encryption key, and said server decrypting said encrypted user information received from said client computer.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said lookup table is stored remotely on a secondary server computer.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising a server process, said method further comprising the steps of:

providing to said server process data including the ISBN number of the printed publication to be updated, a list of user identifiers, at least one URL, the address of said at least first location in said database, and at least one label code parameter;

generating by said server process said index ; and

establishing by said server process an electronic information database.

11. A system for supplementing the contents of a book, said system comprising:

a first label having indicia associated therewith for ascribing said first label to selected contents of a selected page of said book, said first label further comprising a contents code;

an electronic database having a contents code field and a contents field including supplemental information to said selected contents; and

a computer system for receiving said contents code and retrieving said supplemental information, wherein said contents code is suitable for use with said computer system for indicating the correspondence between the selected contents and the supplemental information.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein said computer system is an Internet and said contents code comprises a file transfer request word.

13. The system of claim 12 wherein said contents code comprises an encoded file location pointer comprising an uniform resource locator (URL) for specifying an address in said database having said supplemental information.

14. The system of claim 11 wherein said book is an academic textbook.

15. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

at least one client computer; and

at least one server computer, wherein said client computer is configured for receiving a meta-code and for responsively generating a file transfer request word and directing said file transfer request word to said at least one server computer of the Internet.

16. The system of claim 11, further comprising:

a set of encoded adhesive footnote labels mounted on carrier material, said set of labels including said first label and wherein said first label includes a textbook footnote and a textbook page number.

17. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

an encryption key associated with a source identifier data string, said encryption key suitable for receipt by said client computer to encrypt information specific to a user associated with said client computer, said encrypted user information suitable for assemblage within a computer file transfer request word and transmission to said server computer.

18. The system of claim 17, further comprising:

a source identifier data string to access a lookup table to determine a decryption key associated with said encryption key, and said server decrypting said encrypted user information received from said client computer.

19. A set of encoded adhesive footnote labels comprising:

a plurality of page labels, wherein each said page label includes a string of characters comprising a footnote code and a numerical indication of a page number; and a label header for identifying a textbook to which said footnote codes pertain.

20. A system for retrieving supplemental information for a printed publication, said system comprising:

generating means for providing an index identifying updateable locations in the printed publication and for providing a plurality of codes for locating the supplemental data that corresponds to the updateable locations; and

data processor means programmed for receiving at least one of said codes and for responsively providing said supplemental information.